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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (ORIGINAL) A method for decoding a bitstream, comprising the steps of:

(A) generating a first signal and a second signal by parsing a common slice in said bitstream;

5 (B) generating a third signal by entropy decoding said first signal; and

(C) generating a video signal by combining said second signal and said third signal.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

accepting said common slice containing a plurality of macroblocks encoded in a plurality of modes.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (B) comprises the sub-step of:

renormalizing said entropy decoding by setting any one of a plurality of predetermined values as a last value for said  
5 entropy decoding.

4. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

terminating said entropy decoding by setting any one of  
10 a plurality of predetermined values as a last value for said  
entropy decoding.

5. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further  
comprising the step of:

comparing an offset value to a range value.

6. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 5, further  
comprising the step of:

renormalizing said entropy decoding in response to said  
offset value being at least as large as said range value.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further  
comprising the step of:

demodulating said second signal prior to combining with  
said third signal.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 7, wherein  
said demodulating comprises pulse code demodulating.

9. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus comprising:

a parser configured to generate a first signal and a  
second signal by parsing a common slice in a bitstream;

a decoder configured to generate a third signal by  
5 entropy decoding said first signal; and

a circuit configured to generate a video signal by  
combining said second signal and said third signal.

10. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 9,  
wherein said entropy decoding comprises a binary arithmetic  
decoding.

11. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 10  
wherein said arithmetic decoding comprises a context-based adaptive  
binary arithmetic decoding.

12. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 9,  
further comprising a demodulator configured to pulse code  
demodulate said second signal.

13. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus comprising:

means for generating a first signal and a second signal  
by parsing a common slice in a bitstream;

5 means for generating a third signal by entropy decoding  
said first signal; and

means for generating a video signal by combining said  
second signal and said third signal.

14. (ORIGINAL) A method for encoding a video signal, comprising the steps of:

(A) generating a first signal and a second signal by parsing said video signal;

5 (B) generating a third signal by entropy encoding said first signal; and

(C) generating a bitstream by combining said second signal and said third signal within a common slice.

15. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 14, wherein further comprising the step of:

generating said common slice using data in a plurality of modes.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, wherein step (B) comprises the sub-step of:

renormalizing said entropy encoding by setting any one of a plurality of predetermined bit patterns as a last value for said  
5 entropy encoding.

17. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 16, wherein said predetermined bit patterns comprise a mode for non-encoded pulse code modulated data.

18. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of:

terminating said entropy encoding by setting any one of a plurality of predetermined values as a last bit for said entropy  
5 encoding.

19. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of:

modulating said second signal by pulse code modulation.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

generating a fourth signal and a fifth signal by parsing said common slice in said bitstream;

5 generating a sixth signal by entropy decoding said fourth signal; and

generating a copy of said video signal by combining said fifth signal and said sixth signal.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 2, wherein said common slice comprises one or more macroblocks encoded using arithmetic entropy coding (AC) and one or more macroblocks encoded using pulse code modulation (PCM).

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 21, wherein said arithmetic entropy coding comprises context-based adaptive binary arithmetic coding (CABAC).

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said demodulator is further configured to pulse code demodulate said second signal in a first mode and pass said second signal in a second mode.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method according to claim 14, wherein said second signal comprises pulse code modulated (PCM) data, said third signal comprises arithmetic entropy coded (AC) data and generating said bitstream comprises selected either said pulse code modulated data or said arithmetic entropy coded data for each macroblock of said common slice.